

ABSTRACT

A method and apparatus for delaying or hastening the “lifespan” of a session in response to detecting (or causing) a session renewal. A “session,” refers to a particular user terminal’s right of access to one or more communication channels to exchange data with the base station (and other devices/networks coupled thereto). A session renewal refers to an event or condition that delays the lapse/expiration of the session lifespan (i.e., extends the lifespan) or conversely, an event or condition that causes hastens the lapse of the session lifespan (i.e., causes an earlier lapse of the session). In one embodiment, a session represents the period of time in which a user terminal is registered with a base station and can thus access or attempt to access one or more wireless communication channels to exchange data with the base station. Therefore, a session “lifespan” represents a length of time subsequent to which, upon lapse of the lifespan, the session terminates and a remote user terminal must re-register with a base station to establish a session and to gain access to one or more wireless communication channels in which data may be exchanged between the user terminal and the base station.